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January 19, 1981

Mr. Richard A. Dye
Reclamation Engineer
Atlas Minerals Corporation
Big Indian Mines
LaSal, Utah 84530

RE: Unauthorized Mine Water
Discharge
Probe Mine Site
ACT/015/011
Emery County, Utah

Dear Mr. Dye:

During a recent on-site inspection of Atlas Minerals' Probe #1 and Snow mines surface facilities by Division personnel, D. Wayne Hedberg and Mary Ann Wright on January 8, 1981, a mine water discharge problem was noted at the Probe minesite. The extent of the problem was discussed at that time with mine personnel Mr. Will Hollaway, geologist, and Mr. James Vaughn mine foreman. Information concerning the problem was incomplete so the Division contacted Mr. Dirk Benham of Atlas Minerals on January 9, 1981. From a series of additional telephone conversations between the Division and Atlas Minerals that day and on January 12, 1981, the details of the circumstances surrounding the mine water discharge problem and the remedial actions performed were ascertained.

At this time, the Division is requesting from Atlas Minerals Corporation, a formal letter addressing the situation pertaining to the occurrence of the surface discharge of the mine water at the Probe #1 Mine site. Please submit the following information within 30 days.

1. The reason why the approved discharge elimination system was abandoned.
2. The time period over which the approved discharge pipeline has been disrupted.

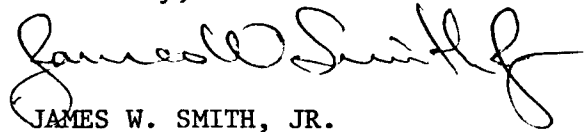
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3. The steps which have been taken, and when, to correct the situation and also any future plans which the Company will utilize to reduce the risk of a reoccurrence of this problem.
4. An explanation why the State authorities were not notified of the situation when it occurred.
5. Plans for clean-up of any potential contaminants which may have resulted from the unplanned surface discharge.

Please submit three copies of all plans and maps for review and approval by the appropriate agencies.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me, D. Wayne Hedberg or Mary Ann Wright.

Sincerely,



JAMES W. SMITH, JR.
COORDINATOR OF MINED
LAND DEVELOPMENT

cc: Steve McNeal, State Health

JWS/DWH/btm